

**THE UNSPEAKABLE REMINISCENT**

**FINAL PROJECT**

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirement of the Degree of  
Sarjana Sastra



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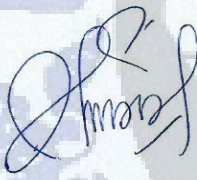


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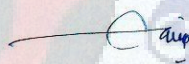
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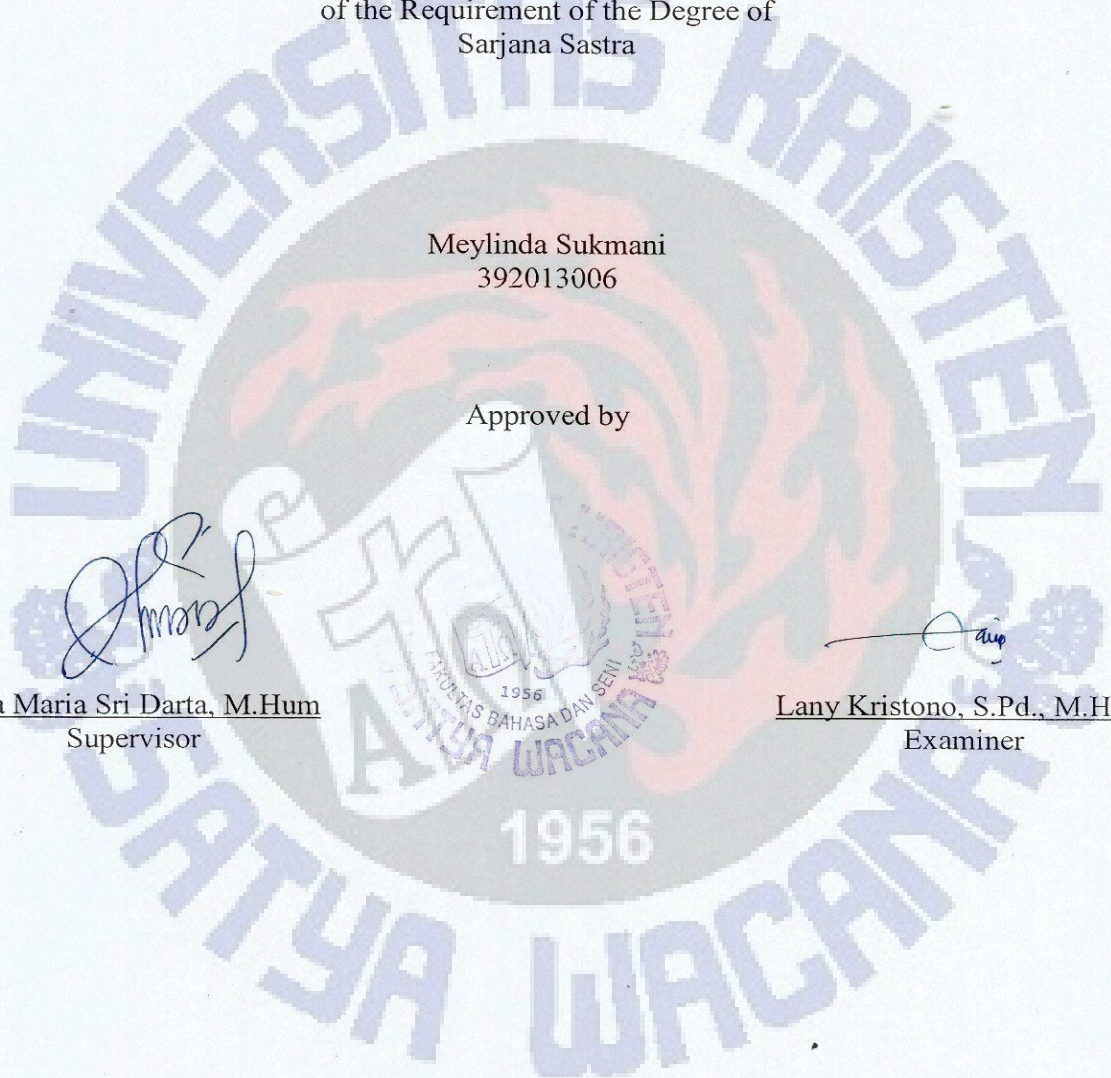
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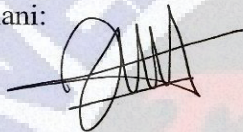
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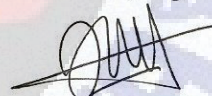
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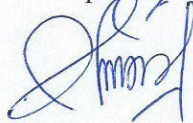
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### **Summary of the Story**

Lili, 10-year-old girl, could not imagine that someone she considered as a big brother would ruin her life unexpectedly. Adit, Lili's cousin, stayed for a while with Lili and her parents. Lili liked Adit's company and Lili's father warned her that it was not good to spend her time alone in Adit's room. However, Lili ignored him. One event changed everything when Lili's parents had a work to do, went out, and left Lili and Adit alone. Adit and Lili were busy reading the comics when one question from Lili made Adit unzip his pants. Lili felt betrayed and Adit found interest in doing it. Lili's parents failed to see the behavior of distress Lili gave whenever they asked her to stay with Adit. One night, Lili parents went out again and Adit touched Lili who could not move or utter the word. Since that day, Lili changed and Adit moved to his dorm. Lili grew up with guilty feeling and sadness in her heart and chose not to tell her parents. Time went by and Lili celebrated her birthday. When the party was over, Adit and his family visited her by surprise. Lili, who could not forget the incident, had a very awkward conversation with Adit in the kitchen and later found out that Adit tried to drag her to the toilet with him. Lili felt betrayed by Adit again and left him alone.



## The Unspeakable Reminiscent

The birthday party was over 30 minutes ago, but none of them showed the sign of wanting to clean the messy room. Two grown-ups were sitting next to each other while the younger one, Lili, was sitting across the table and eating a slice of birthday cake.

“Lili, who was the boy you were talking to earlier?” One of the grown-ups, a man wearing white shirt and a suit on top of it, started the conversation. Lili threw a confused look. “What do you mean, *Papa*<sup>1</sup>?”

“Boyfriend?”

“No.” She mumbled and put the plate onto the chair next to her. “His name is Robby. He is my friend.”

“Are you sure?” added the women, next to *Papa*, and gave her a small evil grin.

“Oh my God!” She said hysterically, “*Mama*<sup>2</sup>, he is my friend!”

*Mama* and *Papa* looked at each other and laughed at Lili. Lili knew what they were thinking of. They were always like that. The words escaping from their mouths made Lili’s face turn red. Lili pouted, “I don’t like him,” said Lili.

“Well,,,” *Papa*’s laughter died and gave Lili a serious look, “You are not a child anymore. If you are about to have a boyfriend, you need to find a good one.”

Lili nodded, “I know, *Papa*.”

Lili, in fact, was an only child and her parents were so protective, especially *Papa*. Even though *Papa* was a busy man, working in the office, but he would always have time to play with Lili. Meanwhile, *Mama* was a housewife. She stayed in a house, but she would accompany *Papa* if he had a business. There was a time, when Lili was still young, *Papa* and *Mama* needed to go for an urgent work at night and they had to bring Lili with them. They couldn’t leave her alone.

“Go change your clothes and then help us clean the room, okay?” Lili’s mind snapped into the reality, and *Papa* and *Mama* stood up from their seats. Lili nodded and went to her bedroom. She walked towards her bed, bent down, and took her clothes she prepared before. From her room, she could lightly hear *Papa* and *Mama* talk to each other, but had no idea what

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<sup>1</sup> Papa is a name Lili gave to her father

<sup>2</sup> Mama is a name Lili gave to her mother



they were talking about. She shrugged off and almost unzipped the zipper on her back when out of sudden she could hear many people talking and the sound of her parents laughing and talking to someone else too. She threw her clothes away and fixed her dress once again. Did someone else come to her house? Lili questioned that question in her mind and a little bit of light came in through the open door where she could spot *Mama* standing there with her wide smile.

“Lili, come out,” she whispered and Lili nodded.

She followed *Mama* from behind until her feet stepped into the living room. Her eyes were narrowing. She saw some unknown faces, but two of them were someone she was familiar with. They were *Mama*’s big sisters.

“Lili, they are *Mama*’s cousins,” *Papa* introduced them to Lili after seeing Lili’s confused face. “You were 2 years old when they came to our house before we moved to another city which is far from their places.” *Papa* gestured her to come closer and Lili took a seat next to *Papa*.

“She is beautiful. How old is she?” one of them asked and Lili grinned shyly.

“I am 17 years old,” answered her. It was always like that. When she met a new person, she would stand or sit like a statue and smiled awkwardly as if she clearly had no idea what to say or do next. Even her friend used to say that the first impression of meeting her was super weird. Some people said that Lili was an arrogant person who never smiled and some said that Lili was weird because she always felt comfortable in her own world. But it was just the first impression of her. Once they knew the real Lili, they would know who she really was.

“Well, do you still remember him?” asked *Mama*.

Lili set her eyes on the man she didn’t notice before. Her eyes were narrowing and her mind tried to process the man’s face in her mind. Did she know him before?

“It is Adit. He used to stay with us for a while when you were still young,” she added.

Lili’s hands were shaking a bit and her heart was beating so fast. She felt dizzy and out of sudden wanted to throw up. Silence filled the room and everyone was looking at her. But the look that Lili hated the most was the look that man gave to her. Who could forget him?

“Well-“she rubbed her neck, “I don’t know.”

Lili stayed still as she scanned the room. *Mama* explained that Lili was 10 years old that time and she might forget him. She folded her arms. Everyone was chatting around and Adit was still eyeing her, and Lili knew that Adit could smell the lie coming from her



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Lili was reading her book silently in her room where the wind came from the open windows and caressed her face tenderly. Every word on the page captured her eyes perfectly that she didn't even realize *Papa* was behind her.

"Lili."

Lili looked over her shoulder and saw *Papa* walking towards her. When he stopped behind her, he put his big hand on top of her hair and caressed her black hair, "what are you reading?"

Lili looked up and showed the cover of the book, "The one *Papa* bought yesterday."

"Have you done your homework?" He asked while playing with her hair.

"I have no homework," answered her. "*Papa* is not working?"

*Papa* smiled and scanned Lili's room, "*Papa* went home early." Lili nodded and continued reading the book. "Someone's going to stay with us for a while."

"Who?" The word someone really got Lili's attention so fast. She looked up at *Papa* with her big eyes.

"His name is Adit. He is *Mama*'s sister's son. He is your cousin."

"Have I ever met him before?"

"No," *Papa* patted her head, "you need to pack your clothes, okay?" He said softly, "you will sleep with us."

"Can I play with him?"

"Of course you can." *Papa* kissed her head, "Come on! Lunch is almost ready." He informed her and Lili nodded.

The second *Papa* said his name and mentioned the word cousin, Lili thought that Adit was a little boy, just like her. Adit could become her friend if her parents went out. Lili was an only child. When the school was over, Lili would always stand by the big gate alone, waiting *Papa* to pick her up. It was not like she had no friends, but seeing her friends picked up by their sisters or brothers was kind of too much. Lili wanted to have one too. When she was at home, she would play alone, help *Mama* and *Papa* alone, and slept alone. She was all by herself. It was boring to have no one by her side. Hearing that someone was going to stay with them built a little hope that maybe he was as old as her and could be her friend. But she got it absolutely wrong.



Adit, the man standing in front of her, was taller than she was. He stood in front of her eyes like an Eiffel tower, too tall for being just a little boy. She took a note of his appearance. His eyes were as dark as the night and Lili realized that his face was as charming as Cinderella's prince. He was wearing a white t-shirt and loose black jeans. The clothes made him look good. Lili also noticed that Adit was not alone. He came with his parents. *Papa* and *Mama* were busy talking to them and Lili sat next to *Mama* while watching Adit.

"This is our only child." *Papa's* voice interrupted Lili's thought.

She was startled, but managed to hide her startled face by coughing a little, "My name is Lili." She whispered quietly, looking down and feeling hot all over her face.

"I am Adit." Adit replied and the smooth voice brought the feeling of comfort for Lili. She looked up and nodded her head slowly. Adit's lips curved a warm smile and Lili gave her the shy smile.

"She is beautiful," Adit's mother praised her and Lili smiled a little as a response.

Having Adit at her house was not that bad. Lili expected the same age boy to be her friend, but the older one also could be one too. After a little introduction, Lili's parents and his parents went into the living room, where they continued to talk, but Adit chose to spend his time with her. They sat facing each other on the floor. Lili was sitting there quietly, the concentrating look traced on her face while observing Adit drawing a robot on her drawing book. Well, the minute they went into the living room Lili came up with an idea that maybe Adit could draw something. And it turned great that Adit could draw perfectly.

"Where did you learn to draw like this?" Lili touched the unfinished drawing on the paper by her index finger, looking up and smiling a little bit wider.

"Well-" Adit erased the crooked line, "It just kinda happened. I like watching my friend drawing and I copy their pictures."

"Awesome," she exclaimed joyfully. She tilted her head to the right when Adit drew a long line from its right hand, "what's that?"

"Oh, it's-"

"It's a sword. It's cool."

Adit laughed, nodding. "Yes, it is." She beamed like the sun at daylight. She tucked her hair behind her ears as she leaned forward. "And how old are you?"

"Sixteen." replied Adit.

“I am ten.” Lili took the pencil from the floor and drew a flower next to the robot, “Can you please teach me?”

“Of course, I can.”

In truth, as Adit silently focused on drawing the robot, Lili examined the look in Adit’s face and couldn’t help but thinking that this must be the feeling her friends had when they were with their sister or brother. It was cozy and warm.

...

“Isn’t it amazing that Adit is staying with us?” *Mama* asked that night when they were finally laying on the bed. That day was filled with happiness as Lili kept following Adit and he didn’t mind at all. Lili even had time to show him her clean bedroom. She felt proud of herself. With a wide grin, Lili showed her collection of books. She explained to him in details about Snow White when Adit asked, and Lili was more than happy to do it. Lili also joked about how Adit never heard about Snow White and Cinderella, and he replied that it was his little sister’s favorite.

“Great.” She answered.

“But-“ She looked at her right, “You don’t play often with him in your bedroom.” *Papa* reminded her and Lili frowned. “Why?” She whined loudly.

“Just don’t disturb him. He needs time to study too, Lili,” explained *Papa*. Lili pouted and nodded, but deep inside she didn’t agree at all.

...

Disappointment washed over Lili when it was time to go to school. It was not the school that brought such the feeling, but the fact that Adit was not with her that ruined her mood. At school, she barely talked because everyone was suddenly not as funny as Adit. They couldn’t draw well and they also didn’t talk to her in the smooth voice. She needed to go home but it was hours before the school was over. Lili refused to do everything with her friends for the rest of the day as her mind kept playing the moment she had with Adit the day before.

“I am home!” Lili shouted loudly, pulled of her black bag quickly and threw it to the floor, and ran to her bedroom where she found Adit sitting on the bed, reading a comic.

“*Abang*<sup>3</sup>...” She stood by the door breathlessly as if she just ran marathon. Hearing the loud voice, Adit looked up and noticed Lili standing there still with her uniform.

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<sup>3</sup>Abang is a nickname Lili gave to Adit



“Why don’t you change your uniform?”

“Change your uniform, Lili!” Someone yelled behind her and Lili spun fast and found *Mama* with her hands on her hips. “Take your shoes and bag from the door. Don’t leave it there.” She pointed the mess with her finger and Lili nodded. *Mama* left them and went into the kitchen. After making sure she was gone, Lili turned around and grinned widely at Adit.

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“What? Am I doing wrong?” She lifted her hand and saw her own drawing. It looked terrible. The head was bigger than the body and the left eye was smaller than the right one. Looking over Lili’s shoulder, Adit scanned the drawing for a minute then burst into laughter.

“Looks like an alien.” Adit held his stomach and laughed loudly.

“That bad?” She asked. Adit nodded vigorously and Lili couldn’t help but laugh because the sound of him laughing was funnier than her own drawing.

“So...” Lili began the conversation as the laughter disappeared, “What school do you go?”

“The one near your father’s office.”

“That one? A private school?”

“Yes.”

“And why don’t you stay in the dorm? I know they have one.”

Adit gave the green marker to Lili who gladly took it from his hand, “I am new here. I will be staying here for two weeks only. I have stuff to do in the school first before I move in to the dorm.”

For a long time, no one said a word. Two of them were busy doing their own stuffs. Lili was busy drawing and coloring. Adit was busy reading the book and looking at Lili at the same time. “What stuff? Only two weeks? Will you come to our house again?” Lili finally broke the silence.

Adit lifted Lili’s right hand and quickly scanned the drawing. “You don’t color the clouds blue.”

“What color then?”

Adit looked for the white marker on the floor. “Use this.” He handed it to Lili. She observed the color and shrugged off. “Never mind. I like them blue.”

Adit looked at her, paused for a while, “I will often come to your house.”

Lili snorted and Adit raised his eyebrow, startled, “What?” Adit looked down and chuckled. “The chicken is bigger than the house.”

“I know. I just can’t...” Lili looked around and reached the eraser at her right side. “It’s terrible. I just want to draw something.” She mumbled and erased the chicken. She scratched her head and scanned her paper carefully as if she was examining her answer for the test.

Adit shook his head, “Let’s draw something else.”

“Huh?”

Adit snatched the paper from Lili’s grip. “I will draw a hero for you.”

“What hero?” Lili pulled herself up and snuggled closer to Adit.

“Superman?”

“Barbie.”

“Cinderella.”

“Come on!” She whined loudly. “It’s too childish.”

Adit sat up straighter and took the pencil from the floor, “What do you want?”

Lili hummed for a while, looking at the ground as if it could give her an idea. Adit took a deep breath and rubbed his neck. “What do you like?”

Lili clapped her hands when the idea came rushing into her mind like the river. She leaned forward and grinned. “Santa Claus.”

“Santa Claus?” repeated him.

“Yes!” She screamed and Adit nodded.

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Dinner was ready and everyone was eating silently. Lili, who was sitting next to Adit, would say one or two sentences and Adit would chuckle a bit. Adit nodded while chewing the food.

“It’s nice to have you here. Lili is still young and sometimes we need to go out at night for an urgent work. We have to bring Lili, but we are afraid of the cold weather. Lili gets sick easily,” said *Papa*.

Adit stared at Lili for a second, “I will take care of her.”

“Lili,” *Papa* looked at her and took a sip of his drink, “You know that Adit is busy with his study. You don’t come too often to Adit’s room. You will disturb him.” He reminded.

Lili whined, “Why? I never disturb him.”



*Papa* coughed a bit, “If Lili wants to play with you, play outside the room, okay?”

“Yes.” Adit nodded once again and continued chewing the food while glancing at Lili.

“I will never disturb him,” she protested, but *Papa* only shook his head a little, “What about the school, Adit?” He ignored Lili’s protest and gave Adit his attention instead.

“I still need to buy the uniform and books.” In the end, the dinner was filled with *Papa* and Adit’s conversation and Lili only listened to them.

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Getting up early in the morning was one of the things Lili hated, but holiday was always an exception for an energetic girl like Lili. Holiday brought a bubble of happiness to Lili. She didn’t need to go to school and study. During holiday, Lili would play with *Mama* or even help her cook and clean the house. She liked doing it. But this time was different. She got Adit to accompany her anywhere and anytime she wanted.

That day was Friday and the clock on the wall showed 6:45 AM. The sun might shine brightly, but the cloud turned gray. Lili silently stood by the window and looked outside. She wanted to go out, but the weather ruined everything, especially her mood.

“What are you doing?” Someone spoke behind him and Lili felt a hand caressing her black hair. She looked up and Adit was standing behind her and smiling at her.

Lili pointed to the gray cloud and Adit followed her gaze. “I really want to play outside, but it’s going to rain.” She mumbled.

“That’s okay. We can play here.”

“What game?” She looked up.

“I don’t know.” Adit ruffled her hair affectionately and then combed it tenderly. “I like your hair.”

Lili beamed. “Really?”

“Yes. It’s black.”

“Let’s eat. I am hungry.”

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Lili went into her parent’s room and noticed that *Mama* and *Papa* were wearing their favorite clothes. Lili closed the door quietly, walked towards the bed, and jumped into it.

“Where are you going?” asked her, jumping up.

*Papa* looked over his shoulder, “*Papa* is having a work to do and *Mama* needs to go with *Papa*. Adit will take care of you. Be a good girl while we are not here. Don’t play in Adit’s room and don’t forget to do your homework.”

“I have no homework to do. Besides, I have already read all the book. Can you please buy me the snacks?”

“You are allergic to the snack, Lili.” *Papa* complained and Lili sighed.

“Can I go with you, *Mama*?” Lili asked *Mama* this time and the answer she got was a big NO. Lili pouted and continued jumping in the bed

“Stop jumping like that! You could break the bed,” scolded *Mama* and Lili stuck out her tongue. “Let me go with you,” she whined.

*Mama* put the lipstick on and shook her head. “It’s going to rain. You’ll get sick.”

“But you go outside!” Lili half shouted.

“It’s going to rain. You will get sick.” Lili jumped out of the bed and walked towards *Mama*, “will *Mama* buy something for me?”

“*Mama* will buy you something, okay?” *Mama* walked towards Lili and kissed her head.

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Lili could die of boredom. It had been fifteen minutes since her parents go and Lili felt so bored. She got nothing to do. She wanted to play in Adit’s room, but *Papa* reminded her no to play there. She also finished reading the children story twice and threw the book aside. She jumped out from the bed and walked towards *Mama*’s dressing table. She scanned the makeup and the red lipstick caught her attention. She picked it up and looked closely at it. She saw *Mama* putting the lipstick on her lips and Lili wondered whether it looked good on her, but she didn’t want to find for another problem. *Mama* would turn into a monster if she found out.

Lili once did something bad months ago. She had seen the adults using nail polish. The color made the nail pretty and Lili wanted to have her fingers pretty too. Then, Lili quickly looked for the marker she put in his bag. She observed the color and red was always her favorite. What she knew later was her nails were red. It looked cool but regret came after. What if *Mama* and *Papas* saw her nail and they scolded her? She quickly took a tissue and cleaned her nail, but it was useless. Her parent would scream at her and the thought of it brought the tears. Lili cried loudly in the middle of her mess and *Mama* showed up in her room with a worried face. *Mama*



asked her what happened, and Lili explained everything. To her relief, *Mama* only laughed and helped her to clean her nail. It didn't end badly, but Lili always felt terrified to do something bad.

Lili knocked the door and opened it without waiting any longer. Adit, lying on his stomach, looked up and smiled. "What is it?"

Lili walked and jumped into the bed. "I am bored. Do you have something to read?"

Adit looked around him and found a comic. "Read this. It's Doraemon."

Lili took the comic from Adit's hand and started reading. Lili realized that Adit moved way too much. He kept fixing his pants. She stared at him and then shrugged off. But it continued. Lili put the comic down, asking, "What's wrong with you? Why do you keep fixing your pants?"

Adit laughed nervously, shaking his head, "Nothing."

Lili narrowed her eyes. "Are you hiding something in your pants?"

Adit was taken aback and avoided Lili's stare. "Nothing."

Lili tried to see Adit's pants. "What are you hiding?" Lili asked again and she could see the panic in his eyes. Lili kept looking into his eyes and Adit did the same. After a minute in silence, Adit coughed. "Well, why don't you close the door?"

"Oh-" Lili's eyes widened, excited. "Are you going to show me something? What is it?"

"Just close the door!" The sentence sounded more like a command from Adit, but Lili didn't sense it as she, as fast as the flash, jumped out from the bed and slammed the door. She then hurriedly climbed into the bed. "What is it?"

Adit put the book on the bed and observed Lili's eyes carefully. The happy look still lingered in Lili's face. "Are you sure?" Adit asked again and Lili nodded vigorously.

"But you must not tell your parents."

Lili smiled happily. "Yes. I promise you. Come on."

Adit's hand moved slowly to his zippers and unzipped, revealing his brown underwear. Lili quickly looked away. "No!" She half screamed, but Adit was fast to grab Lili's hand.

"You say you want to see it." Adit pulled Lili closer and Lili gulped. Her heart was beating so fast. Her mind didn't work properly. Her hands were trembling and she felt hot. She wanted to go out from her room and ran away.

"Lili..." Adit used the voice *Papa* usually used to ask Lili to do something that she didn't want to and it succeeded to bring Lili to reality.

"I don't..." Her voice was already thick with fear, trembling. The tears could've fallen down, but no tears at all. She shook her head.

"Come on. You said you wanted to look." Adit coaxed and Lili nodded. She slowly looked down and fear came rushing into her body when Adit showed his brown underwear. She heard her heart beating loudly in her ears and her eyes stared at Adit's underwear in horror.

"That's what's inside my pants." Adit said with his proud voice and Lili wondered what Adit was proud of.

Everything became too much. The room became smaller and she could hardly breathe. It was too much. A moment of odd silence embraced them. Lili tried to swallow the lump in her throat, but she hiccupped instead and closed her eyes. "I wanna go." She pulled herself up, but Adit pulled her down by her waist. "You are not telling this to your parent." Lili swallowed her saliva. She tried to let go of his grip, and when he did it, Lili quickly yanked the door open, leaving Adit alone.

...

Lili leaned against the window in her parents' room as she waited for them. She scanned the flowers by the window and reached out to touch the delicate petal. In a stabbing loneliness, Lili's mind kept telling her that it was only a nightmare, but the way her heart beating, Lili knew it was all true. It felt wrong, but Lili had no idea what was wrong.

A few weeks ago, when it was Sunday, Lili woke up to the sound of her parents watching the news on the TV in the living room. Lili was having a nap, but the heat made Lili sweat. She nagged and jumped out from her bed. She scratched her head lightly, walking to the door. Before her hand reached the knob, Lili's ears caught the faint voice of *Papa* talking to *Mama*. Lili hesitated, but eavesdropped anyway.

"The world is going crazy. A father raping her daughter is unreasonable." *Papa* commented and Lili heard *Mama* mumbling something. Lili frowned and shrugged off. She yanked the door and slammed it to the wall. It was Lili's bad habit but she didn't care anyway.

*Papa* and *Mama* turned to their left and spotted her standing by the door. Lili noticed that the TV was still on. They followed Lili's gaze and *Mama* quickly took the remote and turned it off.

That time she really wanted to ask them what rape was, but didn't dare too. She could feel that it was wrong of her to ask such a question, but she wondered what made it feel so wrong.



Not long after that day, Lili found out the meaning after looking up in the dictionary. No wonder why the word of rape sounded wrong. And that day, Lili promised that no one could rape her.

Lili sighed and rubbed her eyes. Lili stared at her surrounding, wondering whether it was a rape that Lili experienced. If it was, Lili questioned silently in her heart whether *Papa* and *Mama* called her a mental girl because she let it happen.

The door was open, revealing *Mama* standing there with a wide smile. She was holding something in her hands and for a second Lili felt a peak of happiness even though her heart was gloomy. “*Mama* is home!” She screamed loudly and *Mama* smiled sweetly at her, but *Papa* was not with *Mama*. “Where is *Papa*?” She knitted her forehead.

“He is with Adit. Why?” Lili’s body went tense, but her mind told her to act normal.

“What is it?” asked her when she noticed the black plastic in *Mama*’s hand. She snatched the black plastic from *Mama*’s hand and saw a DVD. She took it out and read the word on the cover loudly. “*Malinkundang!*” She screamed. She jumped while hugging the DVD against her chest. “Where did you buy it?”

“On the way to home, we stopped at the DVD store near your school and bought one for you.”

“Yes!!” She exclaimed and then looked at the cover again.

“Do you like it?”

“I do!” She answered loudly without looking at *Mama*. She was busy scanning the cover until she forgot that *Mama* was still there with her in the room. “*Mama*, what are you going to cook today?”

“What do you want?”

“Fried chicken.”

“Okay. Watch the DVD first. *Mama* will go to the kitchen and prepare the lunch.” *Mama* left her alone and Lili still looked at it with her shining eyes. The silence once again covered her as she looked up and saw nothing in front of her. She promised that she’d never tell what happened to *Papa* and *Mama*. She was afraid of getting scolded because what she did was so wrong.

...

Lili was sitting silently on the bench, eating the snack and watching her friend play hide and seek. She chewed the food slowly and scanned everyone around her. They were playing, but

she was not. She was not in a great mood to play with her friends. Days after that incident happened, Lili didn't dare to leave her parents' bedroom and chose to stay as long as she could manage. She ignored him and she knew that Adit knew what Lili was doing. Luckily, her parents didn't ask why Lili didn't play with Adit anymore. She also spent her day sticking to *Mama's* side and watched her cook.

"Lili!!" Someone, Lili could tell it was a boy, patted her shoulder and screamed in her ears. Lili yelled and jumped in fear. Lili was never so fast to turn around to see her friend look her with a confused looking. He eyed Lili from her hair to her shoes and shook his head.

"Why did you scream?"

"Did I?"

"Did you watch a horror movie last night?"

"No. Why?"

"You look scared." He sighed.

"Do I? No. I don't." She defended herself.

"Well, your face is pale right now." He left her speechless and Lili looked at her friend in confusion. She didn't feel scared, it was just her body that reacted to the touch.

...

Lili walked into her class when she spotted her friends talking something serious from the way one of them, a fat boy, talked. She quietly walked to them and stood in front of the fat boy.

"Did you see it?"

"Of course." The fat boy chewed the snack. "I thought it was Tom and Jerry. I watched it and then suddenly a view of a clean room appeared. I assumed it was another movie, so I sat in front of the TV and watched it."

"Did your parents know it?"

"They were out for a while. My sister went to her friend's house."

Lili frowned. She had no idea what they were talking about. She scratched her head and shrugged off.

"Two people were walking into the room. There were no heads. I only saw their bodies. The girl was only wearing the red shirt without wearing the underwear. She lied under the boy and screamed. I jumped because it startled me. And then my mom came and then hurriedly took the DVD out from the DVD player."



“The boy was also wearing only the shirt without the underwear?”

The fat boy shrugged off. “I didn’t know. He was naked.”

“He could’ve got her pregnant.” One of Lili’s friends commented and it attracted Lili. She raised her eyebrow. “Pregnant?”

Everyone looked at Lili and the fat boy chuckled. “Don’t you know if you are always with an old man and he shows you his *titit*<sup>4</sup>, you’ll get pregnant.”

“*Titit*?” Lili sounded stupid but she clearly had no idea what it was.

“It is something inside the man’s pants.”

...

Lili was standing next to *Mama*, seeing her chop the carrot. She took a big one and bit it. *Mama* turned to see Lili and sighed. “It’s for the chicken soup.”

“It’s delicious,” answered her while chewing the carrot inside her mouth. Lili took another and shoved it into her mouth, and laughed. She knew that *Mama* would never scold her.

“Why don’t you play with Adit?”

“NO!” Lili screamed out of sudden and *Mama* looked confused.

“Lili, why did you scream?”

“I don’t want to play with him anymore.”

“Why?”

“I want to see *Mama* cook.”

“Do you?”

“Yes.”

“Why did you scream?”

“I don’t know!” Lili stomped her feet and left *Mama* speechless.

...

Lili slowly opened the door, minding her parents taking a nap. In her left hand was a book and Lili tried to close the door quietly. She took a step little by little as if her foot would create an explosive sound if she sped up her pace. She clutched the book tightly and headed to the living room. Right after Lili heard that a girl could get pregnant, Lili felt like her world collapsed. But the problem was Adit was not naked that time, but he almost was. Lili argued whether seeing Adit’s underwear could get her pregnant. She knew it was stupid, but deep inside

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<sup>4</sup>Titit is a word that a child uses to say the word penis

her heart she was scared of getting pregnant. She also remembered seeing a pregnant woman. There was a baby inside her tummy and it scared her to death. Not only the thought of getting pregnant that scared her, but also having the baby inside her stomach frightened her.

When the bell rang and the break time began, Lili sprinted out from the class and walked in hurry to the library. Lili's first instinct was to look for the Biology books the sixth grade studied. When she spotted the green book with the word Biology on the cover, she looked around her carefully as if she wanted to commit a big crime. When she saw nothing, she tiptoed and took the book from the shelf. She opened the book and looked for the reproduction topic. She flipped through the pages until something caught her eyes. She read the caption under the picture. It was a colorful picture of male vital. She closed the book and knew that she got what she wanted.

Sitting calmly in the sofa, she looked at the details and mumbled the words written there. It sounded weird and dirty at the same time. The picture really drew Lili's attention that she forgot her purpose to borrow the book. She narrowed her eyes when she got what she needed. She read it carefully and scratched her head when the sentence made no sense to her. The words were all new to her that she wished she knew what it meant. But one thing that she got from the book, seeing men's underwear would never get her pregnant. She sighed and closed the book. She felt like a load was lifted from her shoulder. She blinked her eyes several times and yawned. It really brought her to peace. Before, she made a mental note to ask *Mama* about that, but she was afraid if *Mama* got mad at her and told *Papa* about it. Seeing *Papa* angry was absolutely the worst thing ever.

"What are you doing?"

Lili quickly looked at her left, seeing Adit standing there not too far from her. Lili was shocked. So shocked that her heart almost stopped beating as if she was caught doing a crime. She quickly hid the book behind her back and tried to smile.

"Doing a homework?" Adit walked towards her and sat next to her, so close that Lili felt a sudden hate rose inside her. "No?" Adit once again asked when Lili said nothing.

"No." Lili whispered.

"How's school?"

No reply.

Adit sighed. "Lili, are you even listening to me?"

Lili frowned, pulled back, and looked up at Adit. "Why are you getting angry at me?"



Adit lifted his right hand, dropped it around Lili's shoulder, and took her closer to his body. "Easy sweetie." Lili sat there for several moments, too scared to move. Her brain tried to think properly but Adit's hand slid down slowly, tracing her back and Lili's body went tense. It was so wrong. Lili didn't know what's wrong, but she knew it was wrong.

"Got it." He exclaimed as if he won something. Lili looked up to see Adit already hold the book. "Is it what you are hiding?"

"Give it to me." Lili jumped to take the book, but Adit was so fast to stand and lifted his hand. "Take it." He teased and Lili climbed the sofa and tried to grasp Adit's hand.

"Come on!" Lili whined and Adit tried to swallow his laughter.

"Be careful." Adit reminded her when Lili kept jumping to take the book and Adit was trying to keep her from falling. "What is it?" Adit opened the book and Lili felt scared. She tried her best to snatch it from his grip. "Don't read it!" Lili begged and didn't realize tears were falling down. But Adit noticed them first and closed the book. "Hey, why are you crying?"

Lili rubbed her eyes and shook her head. "My book."

"Okay. Okay. Here you are. Don't cry." He gave the book to Lili and she snatched it from his hand. "I am sorry, okay? Stop crying." Adit wiped Lili's face with his sleeve and Lili stood still, feeling as if her body was torn by the fear and hatred.

...

Lili cursed her life when once again *Mama* and *Papa* left her alone with Adit. She stood in the kitchen with the angry look and *Papa* tried to explain that they were not going home late. Lili begged them to let her go with them, but they always had another reason to neglect it.

"It's cold outside."

"I have a jacket."

"But I want to go with you."

"Lili-*" Papa* came to her and ruffled her hair. "You stay here with Adit, okay? *Mama* and *Papa* will not go home late. *Papa* has to work first."

Lili frowned, looked at the floor. "I hate him."

"Why?"

At the same *Mama* asked, Adit came to the kitchen and asked Lili's parents what they were doing. "You are staying with Adit, okay?" *Mama* calmed her, but Lili shook her head.

“He is mean!” She shouted while pointed her finger at Adit. Adit chuckled and shrugged off. “Are you still mad at me?”

“What’s happening, Adit?” *Papa* asked and Adit laughed.

“We were playing and I won. She was mad at me, that’s why she got angry at me.” He explained it casually, Lili glanced at him, throwing an angry look, and Adit gave Lili a stern look.

*Papa* and *Mama* left the kitchen and Lili followed them from behind.

“That’s okay, Li. It’s just a game. Don’t be mad at him.” *Mama* calmed her down. Lili stood by the door, watching *Mama* and *Papa* get ready. She meant it when she said Adit was mean. He was mean to her. Lili’s mind travelled to the days when everything was fine. Lili never did wrong to Adit, but why did he treat her like that? Was that her fault?

Lili looked at the floor and saw a deep cliff in front of her. *Mama* and *Papa* were so far away, out of her reach. She wanted to jump to another side, but scared of falling into the darkness of the cliff. She was hopeless and it was probably her fault.

...

Lili and Adit were having dinner together in the kitchen. Awkwardness filled the room and Lili was dying to leave the kitchen.

“Are you okay?”

Lili nodded, shoving a spoonful of rice into her mouth.

“Well,” Adit reached out to squeeze Lili’s shoulder. Lili’s body went tense, but she played it cool. “It won’t make you pregnant.”

Lili looked up, frowning. “What?”

“Nothing.” Adit took a sip of his drink and Lili’s eyes scanned his face carefully.

“You must not tell your parents about it.”

“Why?”

Adit shifted his chair closer to Lili. Lili backed away and her eyes followed every move Adit made. She made an intense contact with Adit’s black eyes. She pulled back a bit when Adit’s hand made a contact with her right cheek. Lili didn’t dare to move and could feel the touch of Adit’s rough palm against her smooth cheek. Under her skin, Lili could feel fear and hatred became one. It was too much right at that moment, and she was hopeless.

Then it changed.



The room became dull, dark, and gloomy. Her colorful memory became grey. Everyone's laughter became the sing of the death. Everything around her was colorless and lifeless. Happiness broke through her life and sadness refilled her body. Lili arched her back a bit when the rough palm of Adit slowly explored Lili's back under her pajama. It went down and up slowly, making Lili tremble under Adit's attention. Tears were no longer there. Body went rigid. Her eyes were open still. Her heart was beating so fast under the echo of filthy words coming from Adit's mouth.

"Because you asked for it first." Lili's mind was blank.

"People will blame you."

...

Lili refused to talk to anyone. She talked when she needed to. Lili got up early and *Mama* and *Papa* praised her for her attitude, saying that they were proud of her. Lili smiled a little bit and became so quiet. No whining and whimpering like usual. She went to the school and sat in her chair with a blank look. She wondered what was wrong because she felt lifeless. Everything around her became quite. She loathed it but kind of liked staying there. Silence consumed her happiness away but comforted her at the same time.

She sighed when she put her feet into the house. She put her bag on the table in the living room and her ears caught no sound. It was odd. Lili walked slowly to her bedroom and peeped behind the open door. Her room was clean and bright from the sunshine coming from the open window. Her bed was neat and she didn't see Adit or his belonging. She stepped into the room and the smell of Adit still lingered there.

"He left to his dorm." Lili spun around and saw *Papa* standing by the door with the black plastic in his right hand. "He couldn't say goodbye to you because he was busy preparing his study and the room."

"Oh." She nodded and the silence once again filled the room.

"And look what it is." *Papa* lifted the plastic and Lili walked towards *Papa*. She peeked into the plastic and noticed a milk box. "Milk?"

"No," *Papa* took out the milk box and showed the backside of the box.

"A comic?" She snatched the milk box from *Papa* and scanned the comic with a happy smile.

“Yes. Go change your uniform now. *Mama* cooked something delicious for us.” *Papa* squeezed her shoulder and Lili hummed in response. She clutched the milk against her chest and turned around to see her bedroom once again. She shrugged off and closed the door quietly.

...

Lili groaned loudly when she couldn't do her homework. She read the question once more and opened her book. She scanned the page carefully and her teeth bit her finger when her head nearly exploded. “Why is it so difficult?” She whined, banging her head to the table. She stomped her feet and sighed.

“Are you still awake?” Lili quickly lifted her head and turned to her right to see *Mama* standing by the door. *Mama* was wearing the light blue pajama and looked tired.

“I am doing my homework.”

“It's almost midnight.”

Lili glanced over her shoulder to look at the clock. “I know. I am not tired.”

“Your brain is tired.”

“I will sleep later.” *Mama* sighed and closed the door quietly. Lili stared at the door for a long time and closed her eyes tightly. She looked around her and inhaled deeply.

A year after the event, they had to move to another city because of *Papa*'s job. Lili welcomed the news with a big smile written on her face. She proudly told her friends if she would move to another city. She helped *Mama* with the packing or saw *Papa* put their stuffs into the car. She didn't care about the event anymore as her heart was filled with happiness and excitement. There was a time where she stood in the kitchen or her bedroom alone and the memory rushed into her mind and Lili would stand there, doing nothing. She thought maybe moving out could comfort her.

Lili stood up from the chair and walked to her bed. She sat on the edge of the bed and let the loneliness come to her. It was always like that and it never changed since that day. Lili was wrong. Her mind told her that moving out was the best idea, but another part of it reminded her that the memory would stay no matter what. The situation never got better. It got worse. She pulled her legs up against her chest and her eyes stared blankly at the empty space in front her. She began her new life, surrounded by an invisible wall she built years ago. She felt safe and scared at the same time. Six years passed by slowly and she wondered how she could live her life like that?

...

“What’s his name?”

“Ryan.”

“Okay.” Lili nodded her head while seeing the senior play the basketball.

“Is he handsome?”

“Who?”

“Ryan.”

Lili thought for a while and shrugged off. “I don’t know.” Lili looked at her friend and shrugged off. She was tired of listening to her friend’s babble about the handsome senior.

“Why? He-“ With a jolt, Lili felt like something weird was happening to her. A creepy feeling crawled into her body and Lili swallowed the lump in her throat. The feeling was back. It happened in a moment like this when Lili didn’t expect it at all. Lili felt mad and angry at the same time, but couldn’t do anything. She coughed and fixed her uniform.

“Are you listening to me?”

“Yes.” She muttered while looking down at her body. She was still wearing her uniform. She was not naked. It was just the feeling. “What did you say about Ryan?”

...

Lili went into the kitchen and spotted *Mama* cook. “Where’s *Papa*?”

“He’s out. Why?” *Mama* turned around to look at Lili and sighed. “What happened with you? *Papa* only asked why you liked staying in the bedroom? No need to yell like that.”

Lili nodded. “I know.” She mumbled. Well, she didn’t mean to yell at *Papa*, but she had no idea why she was angry at *Papa*. She sighed and ruffled her hair.

“Do you have a problem at school?”

Lili shook her head. “No. I am just tired.”

“Then stop sighing.”

“Okay.” Lili stood awkwardly and silence once again filled the room. A minute passed, then she heard noises behind and *Papa* was there, holding a black plastic.

“Lili, I bought you your favorite food.” *Papa* lifted the plastic and Lili came towards *Papa* and took the plastic. She looked into it and smiled a bit. It was always like that. When Lili was mad, *Papa* would go out and come back with something Lili liked. She smiled and looked



up at *Papa*. *Papa* was smiling, and Lili remembered her attitude towards *Papa* and regretted yelling at *Papa*.

“Don’t be mad at *Papa*, okay?” Lili nodded and *Papa* caressed her black hair. “You know *Mama* and *Papa* love you. I want you to go out from your room and talk to us like usual. To be honest, you’ve changed. We don’t know what’s happening to you. Do you have a problem?”

“No.”

“Do you have a boyfriend?”

“No.” Lili whined.

“You are always busy in there. What are you doing?”

“Studying.”

“Don’t lock the door then.”

“I know.”

“Talk to us when you have something in your mind, okay? I am sorry if *Papa* made you angry earlier.”

Lili nodded her head. “I am sorry for yelling at *Papa*.”

“Next week, we are having a birthday party for you. My little daughter is going older.” *Papa* said and Lili laughed.

That day, Lili didn’t stay in her room as it was weekend and she didn’t have the homework. She talked with *Mama* in the kitchen while *Papa* was working. At night, they had a dinner together, something that Lili rarely did. Before, Lili would eat alone or didn’t eat at all even after *Mama* asked her to. That night was full of happiness. Lili talked to them about funny things and sometimes *Papa* would tell a joke or stupid things to them that Lili laughed so hard. The night was so pure and precious. It was something Lili truly wanted to have in her life. In that beautiful moment, when *Papa* and *Mama* laughed and smiled freely, Lili took a moment to realize that telling them would never be a good idea.

...

Lili threw the blanket over her body and stared at the ceiling. She sighed and closed her eyes.

*Talk to us when you have something in your mind, okay?*

Lili opened her eyes slowly and the darkness still stood in front of her. She tried so hard to make it right but it kept going wrong. She wanted to hug *Papa* and *Mama*, and told them everything. But no parents would be happy to know that their children got abuse by a family member. No children would be happy to see the tears in their faces once they knew about abuse. And once again Lili wondered whose fault it was. Lili turned to her left side and wiped the tears away harshly.

...

Lili took a sip or two from her bottle and groaned quietly. She had had enough of bad things in her life. Why did it happen to her?

“Hello.”

Lili choked on her own saliva and spat the water from her mouth. She inhaled deeply and wiped her mouth with her hand. Lili turned around and Adit was standing with a box of tissue in his grip. He held out the box and Lili took it from his hand. She wiped her mouth while scanning Adit from his head to his toe. He didn't change. His black hair was still short and his face still looked innocent and nice like before, but Lili knew it was fake.

Adit took a seat in front of her and Lili frowned when Adit acted so cool as if nothing happened between them. The man who was sitting in the same room with Lili was her nightmare. He was an epitome of the unforgettable sin.

“How are you?” Lili put the box on the table behind her.

Lili shrugged, “I am good.”

“And I am doing well.” Adit said, knowing that Lili would never ask him the same question.

“Okay.” Lili touched the back of her neck and could feel how cold her palm was. The atmosphere fell into a big hole of silence and Lili wanted to run away from the heavy situation.

“You look good in that dress.” Adit commented and Lili looked down at her dress. No one commented about her dress, except *Papa* and *Mama*, so Lili nodded. Lili looked up only to find Adit sitting calmly in his seat with the sincere smile.

Suddenly, everything rushed into Lili's mind and she mentally went back to the moment when it started. Picture by picture came into her mind and Lili clearly remembered everything, from the moment Adit came to her house until he left. His companion, his drawing, his smile,

and his laughter used to be one of best things in her life. But Lili ruined everything by asking Adit to show what was inside his pants.

As much as Lili hated to admit it, she just understood what held her back from telling the incident to her parent. It was because Adit did nothing. It was Lili's fault. Lili had nothing to complain to *Papa* and *Mama*. She would never tell them because if *Papa* and *Mama* knew what truly happened, she was scared of getting scolded by them. *Papa* and *Mama* would feel disappointment for the rest of their lives. Especially if *Papa* and *Mama* knew that it was her initiative that asked Adit to show his underwear to her.

"Lili!" Lili snapped back into reality and found out that Adit was already standing in front her with a worried face. "There you are. I kept calling you but you kept looking at me like I had three heads." Adit said and Lili's lips twitched into a very small smile. The smile didn't go unnoticed by Adit as he sighed loudly, loud enough to make Lili's eyebrows frowned deeper. Carefully, Adit leaned in to take a look, his right hand rubbing Lili's shoulder in circle and Lili tried her best not to punch Adit in the face. "Are you okay?"

Lili nodded slowly. "Okay." When Lili felt Adit pull away, she could feel a burning sensation on her shoulder.

"Are you sure?" Adit asked again and walked back to the chair. Lili nodded and Adit smiled widely. "How's school?" Lili frowned and inhaled deeply. "Is it that bad?" Adit gave him a questioning look and Lili shook his head.

"No. I mean yes. I mean it is like-" Lili stopped talking and looked at Adit for a while, sighing again, "It is good."

"Are you sure? You sound unsure." Lili chewed her bottom lip and shrugged off.

"It is good."

"No, it is not."

"How do you know?" Lili tried to build a conversation.

"I can read your face." Adit smiled brightly and Lili looked away. She closed her eyes for a second and opened them slowly. She wondered quietly whether she could fix whatever they had. She shook her head and looked down, playing with her hands. "It's not good."

"Why?"



“I don’t know-“ She folded her arms in front of her stomach. “I just don’t like it. I don’t know why.” Without looking up, she could feel the deep stare Adit gave to her and she was afraid to look into his eyes.

“That’s okay. I know that feeling.” Lili lifted her head and gave him a confused look.

“I was also a student.”

Lili snorted and nodded. Lili sucked in a heavy breath and exhaled quietly. Everything was back into the silence and Lili wanted to walk away from this moment. It seemed so heavy and Lili couldn’t handle it well. Lili looked up once again and Adit was already looking at her deeply, and once he noticed that Lili was looking at him, Adit gave her a smile. Lili continued to stare at him and throwing him an awkward smile was all Lili could do.

“Can you sit right here?” Adit patted the empty chair next to him and Lili honestly didn’t see the harm of doing it, but she didn’t want to do it. “No.”

“Uh....okay,” Adit straightened his back and intertwined his fingers.

Adit fished the phone out from his pocket and typed something. All Lili did was staring at him again. Lili openly understood what he was trying to do. Adit obviously tried to make everything right. He tried to bring a conversation but Lili gave him the awkward atmosphere. He smiled sincerely but Lili’s lips turned into another awkward smile. None he did was wrong but Lili felt it wrong just by standing in the same room with him. She didn’t understand what’s wrong with her.

“To be honest-“ Lili looked at Adit, frowning when he looked a little bit confused. “I need to go to the toilet.”

Lili kept looking at him because she didn’t know where this conversation headed. Was this a new topic for their awkward conversation?

“I don’t know where it is.” Adit admitted and Lili was taken aback by the sentence. She scratched her cheek and shrugged off. “Uh..the toilet is outside. It is next to the laundry room.” As soon as she said that, her feet wanted to bring her body away from the kitchen, leaving Adit alone. But Adit was fast to call her name. Lili stopped abruptly and turned around, seeing Adit was already standing with his two hands in his pocket.

“Can you take me there?” Adit asked and Lili frowned deeply. “Please?” Adit added and Lili raked her mind to find a reason to ignore the request, but Lili failed to find one. Lili sighed. She wanted to make a move when out of sudden her instinct whispered no in her ears. Lili closed

her eyes tightly and mumbled to her instinct that it was just a feeling. The idea of running away from the kitchen was just a spontaneous react. Nothing would happen to her.

“Okay. Follow me,” was all Lili said once she opened her eyes.

Lili brought them to the back of their house where everything was dark. Adit was walking behind her quietly and Lili walked as fast as she could. They kept walking through the laundry room.

“Are you going to toilet alone at night?” Adit surprisingly asked the extremely weird question.

“I am seventeen.” Lili reminded him and she could hear Adit mumble something, but Lili ignored it. She scratched her cheek and shrugged off.

“Here it is.” Lili stopped right in front of the toilet and Adit looked over Lili’s shoulder. “Thank you.” Adit walked pass Lili and when Lili wanted to turn around to leave, Adit gripped Lili’s wrist and Lili quickly turned her face around to look at Adit’s face. “What?” The grip was tight and Lili tried to calm down, telling herself that nothing would happen.

“I have something to ask.”

“O..o..kay.” She stuttered and couldn’t help the fear rising in her blood. She could hear her heart beating loudly.

“I wonder if you-“ Adit stopped talking and eyed Lili from her head to her toe, and smirked. “Why don’t you come in with me?”

“What?!”

“Accompany me.”

“No!” She tried to pull her hand away.

“Come on.” She still tried her best to run away.

“No.” She whispered under her heavy breath and tried to calm her heart. Her hands were shaking and Adit looked at his tight grip around Lili’s wrist.

“I am kidding.” Adit let her hand go and Lili stumbled backward. Before Adit really closed the door, he mumbled, “Your fault.”

Adit closed the door and Lili stood there in the middle of the darkness in fear and horror. The tears didn’t fall from her eyes, but she could clearly feel the sadness inside her heart. Without doing or saying much, Lili ran away with her another unspeakable reminiscent.

## **Reflective Paper**

### **Introduction**

Children are the gifts given by God that the parents love dearly, completely, and truly. From the day they were born, the parents fulfill every child's need and want. They work hard to finance children's lives well. They also want the best for their children. The children's conditions are and will always be the parents' concern, especially children's safety.

Yuyun's case, a rape case that caught the public attention, has been a big issue among us. Following the Yuyun's case, a father confessed raping his 13-year-old daughter 60 times over five years, and she finally told her grandfather because she could no longer stand it (Jakarta Globe). Responding and being aware of the issue, the parents will put themselves into alert mode and hope that they can prevent the incident from happening. Having their precious children abused sexually will always be hurtful for everyone, especially the parents. Moreover, the parents will always protect the children from the world outside. Unfortunately, the parents somehow fail to see that the abuser of sexual abuse can be one of the family members.

Nothing is more painful than not knowing that sometimes a certain behavior or symptom can show a trace of sexual abuse. A child who gets sexual abuse will behave oddly as they behave and show the sign or symptom that something or one of the family members may upset her or him. Sexual abuse can give the short-term or long-term effect to the children that can be so unsafe for the child's mental growth. It is very important for the parents to pay attention to the children's behaviors. Afterwards, the parents can talk to and discuss with them, and provide help for them. Therefore, this becomes my first reason why I chose this topic for my story.

However, even after the children know that one of the family members abuse them sexually and it makes them feel uncomfortable, the children tend to shut their mouths up as there are some things that they are afraid of if they tell the truth to the parents. The children will keep everything in their minds and pretend that they are okay. Children often avoid telling because they are afraid of a negative reaction from their parents ("Child Sexual Abuse" 10), thus, this issue becomes another reason why I wrote this story. It will be such a relief to the parents if the children tell them, because the parents can handle the situation furthermore and the children will finally get some help. This story will also remind the parents not to blame the children if sexual abuse happens to them, rather, support and be there for them. Therefore, I want to write a life of a child who gets sexual abuse by the family member and how s/he deals with it.



### **The experience of learning the life of the victim**

Pandora's Project defines sexual abuse as any sort of non-consensual sexual contact. Child sexual abuse is everyone's concern, especially the parents'. Child sexual abuse can be a very sensitive issue in the environment and among the family member. Child will feel stressed. It can trigger the children to feel shame because it is not something that should happen to anyone else. This is why we rarely hear that our friends or other people tell us the experience of sexual abuse. Thus, this becomes my problem to learn about sexual abuse. Interviewing and observing are the things I cannot do because I do not have a friend or someone else that has the experience. Fortunately, to solve this problem, library study is the best solution to collect data as I can find it by reading the book and other sources.

People always have the tendency to ask whether this or that can affect us if we try to do something, whether it will give us a good benefit or not. Moreover, it applies the same to this case. Sexual abuse is something that we have never wished to happen to us. However, they are unlucky people out there that get sexual abuse when they were children. The trauma can affect them badly when it happens to them. Some effects have long-term affect and some have short-term affect. Either way, the effect is a bad trauma for the victim. Moreover, this explanation rises a question: 'what are the long-term effects and short-term effects for the victim?' and 'how do the effects affect them?'

To understand more about those questions, I chose to search on the internet and found a journal, entitled *The Traumatic Impact of Child Sexual Abuse: A Conceptualization* written by David Finkelhor, Ph.D and Angela Browne, Ph.D. After reading the journal, it gave me a lesson that a child will have four traumagenic dynamics that later I chose three dynamic out of four to support the character's behavior and symptoms that indicated the character was sexually abused. The traumagenic dynamics would influence the way the character acted around the abuser.

However, the reading could not help me to imagine how the character acted around people, so, I ended looking for a good movie that talked about sexual abuse theme or another issue that was similar to that; rape case. Han Gong Ju movie became my choice. The movie really gained my knowledge as I saw the character acted around people. I observed the girl closely and noticed how people acted around her. Through this movie, I could see a glimpse of what was actually happening to the victims and how they coped with the incident. The girl in the movie always

kept quiet, avoided people, and became aggressive if they did something that she didn't like, and that behavior helped me to imagine how my character should act around people.

However, that knowledge only covered half of the character's behavior in the story as I needed more sources to show that sexual abuse would surely give my character bad effect. *Child Sexual Abuse: It Is Your Business* brochure came up with a series of the effects that might happen to the children. The brochure has twelve effects and I used three effects that could be shown in my story.

During the process of my writing, writing about the reasons why the children did not do the disclosure was the biggest challenge ever. Showing and describing the effect were easier to do because I had some information to guide me. However, writing the reasons why the disclosure might seem impossible for the children required me to put myself into my character's condition. Moreover, I could not write the sad feeling because of the thought of disclosure and other things that held her back from doing so as I did not feel the feeling of depressed, sad, and etc. I once tried to write the part where my character felt scared and sad at the same time, thinking about the disclosure and the sexual abuse, only to write a bunch of mess about it. Moreover, I ended up writing that part in two days with the help of Han Gong Ju and Silenced movie as they gave me a good view of the feeling. The first time I watched Han Gong Ju movie, I focused on the behavior the girl had. When I re-watched Han Gong Ju movie for the second time, I tried to focus on her face and eyes when she did not do anything or do something. The girl reflected the deepest sadness and hurtful pain, and those expressions successfully played my imagination.

To support my answer about the reasons why the children do not disclose, I searched on the Internet and got a book, entitled *Understanding Child Sexual Abuse: A Guide for Parents & Caregivers* by Loree Beniuk and Pearl Rimer. The book explained the details about the reasons I needed and I applied some theories to my story.

### **The Struggling of 'Showing Not Telling'**

Understanding more about child sexual abuse was not the only thing I faced during the process of the writing. The technical writing of my story became a big problem as I found it easy to find the differences between showing but difficult to apply the theory of Showing and Telling. To help me solve this problem, I read the book, entitled *Creative Writing* written by Adele Ramet. Creative Writing explains that showing what is happening through the action and

reactions of your characters brings peace, movement and life to a story (69). This book became my compass to guide me, but I kept going wrong. The more I read, the more confused I was. The word I used showed *telling* not *showing*. I re-read two examples of Showing and Telling and could see the difference between *showing* and *telling*. Afterwards, I tried to write my story and it seems like my character did *tell* the story not *show* it. Some drafts should be revised and this problem became worse as I kept doing wrong. It looked like I narrated or told the story to the reader. However, I wanted my character's reaction, dialogue, action, and etc to tell what is happening in the story to the reader. Finally, I chose to ask my advisor about this problem and she told me that I should use action verb and five senses. Afterwards, I re-read the book and could see clearly the difference between *telling* and *showing*. I wrote my story smoothly and well after knowing these differences even though the problem of *telling* and *showing* would get in my way. Fortunately, I could still manage to fix the problem and continued writing my story.

## CONCLUSION

My writing aims to describe the effects of child sexual abuse and how they affect the children, and why the children do not do the disclosure. After the sexual abuse has occurred, the children will show symptom or behavior indicating that the children are abused sexually and adult is supposed to see the symptom or behavior the children consciously or unconsciously do. The effect afterwards might affect the children for short or long time. Moreover, the children can feel more traumatized if they cannot bring themselves to do the disclosure. Therefore, the adults play a big part in convincing them that getting abused sexually is never the children's fault but the abuser.



# LOGBOOK

Name	Meylinda Sukmani					
Stu.No	392013006					
Project Title	The Unspeakable Reminiscent					
Date	Activities	Progress	Problems	Advisor's Suggestion	Advisor's signature	Student's signature
May 11, 2017	1. Read "Creative Writing Book."	Writing the first draft	It is hard to see the differences between showing and telling.			
May 14, 2017	1. Read 'Creative Writing Book.'	Revising the first draft and writing the second draft	I faced the problem about showing and			







May 24, 2017	Read 'The Traumatic Impact of Child Sexual Abuse.'	the fourth draft	Revising the third draft and writing the fourth draft						
May 31, 2017	Read 'The Traumatic Impact of Child Sexual Abuse.'	Revising the fourth draft and writing the fifth draft							
June 5, 2017	Read 'The Traumatic Impact of Child Sexual Abuse.' / Four Traumatic Dynamics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traumatic Sexualization</li> <li>• Betrayal</li> <li>• Powerlessness</li> <li>• Stigmatization</li> </ul>	Revising the fifth draft and writing the sixth draft							









June 17, 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read 'Recovering from Child Abuse.'</li> <li>2. Read 'The Psychological Consequences of Sexual Trauma.'</li> <li>3. Read 'Understanding Child Sexual Abuse: A Guide for Parents and Caregiver.'</li> <li>4. Watch 'Han Gong Ju.'</li> </ol>	Revising the eighth draft and writing the ninth draft	I faced the difficulties to describe the feeling the character, Lili, had while getting abused by Adit.		
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June 23, 2017	<p>1. Read 'Child Abuse Prevention.'</p> <p>2. Read 'You and Your Child.'</p> <p>3. Watch 'Silenced.'</p> <p>4. Watch 'Han Gong Ju.'</p>	Revising the ninth draft and writing the tenth draft	<p>I faced the difficulties to write the feeling the character, Lili, felt after getting abused by Adit</p> <p>Solution: I watched Han Gongju and Silenced movie to understand that feeling.</p>			 
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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT


I am grateful to the God for the blessings and the grace that helped me finish this final project, entitled "The Unspeakable Reminiscent".

I realize that I have made many mistakes while writing this final project. Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude to:

1. Deta Maria Sri Darta, M.Hum, my supervisor, for her valuable guidance and sincere encouragement given to me in the midst of her hectic activity.
2. Lany Kristono, S.Pd., M.Hum, my examiner, for her useful advice and guidance that motivated me as a writer to write my final project well.
3. Ervin Suryaningsih, M.Hum, my academic advisor, for her help, support, and continuous encouragement.
4. Lecturers in Faculty of Languages and Arts that have taught me and enriched my knowledge.
5. I also want to show my sincere thanks and love to my parents, Pdt. Imanuel Suryasukma, Sth and Bumey Nyandang, for all the prayers and encouragement, and also my sister and brother, Hollya Ester Sukmaputri, S.Psi., M.M and Roni Kurnia Sukmaputra, for the genuine support given to me.
6. I also want to express my gratitude to my friends who directly and indirectly helped me.

Thanks for the prayer, support, energy, and time extended to me. May God always bless you in His loving care.

Salatiga, August 14, 2017



Meylinda Sukmani



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